

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A closed loop system for delivering information obtained from an information content source to a playback device, comprising:
    - a mobile-content server comprising:
      - an information content source interface;
      - a playback device interface; and
      - a server application operating on the mobile-content server
    - and enabling the mobile-content server to be operative to:
      - receive user information;
      - obtain content programming information via the information content source interface, the content programming information being based at least in part on the user information;
      - deliver the content programming information to the playback device via the playback device interface; and
      - receive response information from the playback device via the playback device interface.
  2. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the response information includes a time-stamp.
  3. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the response information is associated with a particular portion of the content programming information.
  4. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments.
  5. The closed loop system of claim 4, wherein the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected advertisement segments to the

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 playback device via the playback device interface, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database.

6. The closed loop system of claim 5, wherein the response information from the playback device is associated with a selected advertising segment.

7. The closed loop system of claim 4, wherein the mobile-content server selects the advertisement segments from the advertising database based, at least in part, on the user information.

8. The closed loop system of claim 4, wherein the response information from the playback device is associated with a particular portion of the content programming information.

9. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein user information comprises name, company, email address, shipping address, delivery address, and credit card information of the user.

10. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the user information comprises preference information comprising specific content request and content categories.

11. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the playback device comprises:

a memory storage unit;

an information content source interface;

a mobile-content server interface; and

a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the information content source interface and the mobile-content server interface, the processing unit, in response to instructions stored in the memory storage unit, being operative to:

enable the information content source interface in accordance with the content programming information;

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receive information content from an information content source via the information content source interface; and

store the information content into the memory storage unit.

12. The closed loop system of claim 11, wherein prior to storing the information content into the memory storage unit, the processing unit is operative to convert the information content into one or more content segments.

13. The closed loop system of claim 11, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments, the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected advertisement segments to the playback device via the playback device interface, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database, and wherein the processing unit of playback device, prior to storing the information content into the memory storage unit, is further operative to:

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

14. The closed loop system of claim 13, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning the tunable receiver to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

15. The closed loop system of claim 11, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content

500A7 source interface by tuning the tunable receiver to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

16. The closed loop system of claim 15, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments, the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected advertisement segments to the playback device, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database, and wherein the processing unit of playback device, prior to storing the information content into the memory storage unit, is further operative to:

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

17. The closed loop system of claim 11, wherein the information content source interface is a cellular receiver and the content programming information comprises a telephone number and a time-stamp, and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by initiating a call to the telephone number at the time identified by the time-stamp.

18. The closed loop system of claim 17, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in raw form.

19. The closed loop system of claim 17, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in content segment form.

20.  
comprises:

a memory storage unit;  
an information content source interface;  
a mobile-content server interface;  
an audio output;  
a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the mobile-content server interface, the audio output and the information content source interface, the processing unit, in response to instructions stored in the memory storage unit, being operative to:

21. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein prior to providing the information content to the audio output, the processing unit is operative to convert the information content into one or more content segments.

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

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interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

23. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments, the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected advertisement segments to the playback device via the playback device interface, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database, and wherein the processing unit of playback device, prior to providing the information content to the audio output, is further operative to:

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

24. The closed loop system of claim 23, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

25. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning the tunable receiver to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

26. The closed loop system of claim 25, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments, the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected

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advertisement segments to the playback device via the playback device interface, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database, and wherein the processing unit of the playback device, in conjunction with providing the information content to the audio output, is further operative to:

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

27. The closed loop system of claim 25, wherein the mobile-content server further comprises an advertising database for storing advertisement segments, the mobile-content server is further operative to deliver selected advertisement segments to the playback device via the playback device interface, the selected advertisement segments being selected from the advertising database, and wherein the processing unit of playback device, prior to providing the information content to the audio output, is further operative to:

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the selected advertisement segments with the one or more content segments.

28. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the information content source interface is a cellular receiver and the content programming information comprises a telephone number and a time-stamp, and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by initiating a call to the telephone number at the time identified by the time-stamp.

29. The closed loop system of claim 28, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in raw form.

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30. The closed loop system of claim 28, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in content segment form.

31. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the information content source interface is a cellular receiver and the content programming information comprises a time-stamp, and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by accepting an incoming call at the time identified by the time-stamp.

32. The closed loop system of claim 31, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in raw form.

33. The closed loop system of claim 31, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in content segment form.

34. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier, a time-stamp and a time duration, and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp, and the playback device is operative to receive information content transmitted from the information source for the time duration.

35. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the playback device interface and the mobile-content server interface are wireless interfaces.

36. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the playback device interface and the mobile-content server interface are cellular interfaces.

37. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the playback device interface and the mobile-content server interface are pager interfaces.

38. The closed loop system of claim 20, wherein the playback device interface and the mobile-content server interface are Bluetooth interfaces.

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39. The closed loop system of claim 1 wherein the mobile-content server and the playback device are included within a single device.

40. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the playback device includes a tunable receiver and the content information identifies a channel, a start-time and an end-time.

41. The closed loop system of claim 1, wherein the playback device includes a tunable receiver and the content information identifies a channel, a start-time and a duration.

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42. A playback device comprising:  
a memory storage unit;  
an information content source interface;  
a mobile-content server interface;  
a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the information content source interface and the mobile-content server interface, the processing unit, in response to instructions stored in the memory storage unit, being operative to:

- receive content programming information via the mobile-content server interface;
- enable the information content source interface in accordance with the content programming information;
- receive information content from the information content source via the information content source interface;
- store the information content into the memory storage unit;

and

- provide response information to the mobile-content server interface.

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convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

45. The playback device of claim 42, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

47. The playback device of claim 46, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in raw form.

49. The playback device of claim 42, wherein the information content source interface is a cellular receiver and the content programming information comprises a telephone number and a time-stamp, and the playback device is

operative to enable the information content source interface by initiating a call to the telephone number at the time identified by the time-stamp.

50. The playback device of claim 49, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in raw form.

51. The playback device of claim 49, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in content segment form.

52. The playback device of claim 42, further comprising an audio interface coupled to the processing unit, and the processing unit is further operative to:

read the information content from the memory storage unit; and  
provide the information content to the audio interface.

53. The playback device of claim 42, further comprising a response generator interface coupled to the processing unit, and the processing unit is operative to provide response information by being operative to:

detect a signal on the response generator interface;  
create a response based, at least in part, on the detected signal; and  
provide the response to the mobile-content interface.

54. The playback device of claim 42, further comprising an audio interface and a response generator interface, both coupled to the processing unit, and the processing unit is further operative to:

read the information content from the memory storage unit; and  
provide the information content to the audio interface; and  
the processing unit is operative to provide response information by

being operative to:

detect a signal on the response generator interface;  
create a response based at least in part on the detected signal; and  
provide the response to the mobile-content interface.

57. The playback device of claim 54, wherein the response generator interface is a voice activated receiver.

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convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

interleave the advertisement segment with the one or more content segments.

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interleave the advertisement segment with the one or more content segments.

63. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises a channel and a time-stamp and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to the channel at the time identified by the time-stamp.

convert the information content into one or more content segments; and

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71. The playback device of claim 69, wherein the information content is received by the playback device in content segment form.



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72. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier, a time-stamp and a time duration, and the playback device is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp, and the playback device is operative to receive information content transmitted from the information source for the time duration.

73. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a wireless interface.

74. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a cellular interface.

75. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a pager interface.

76. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a Bluetooth interface.

77. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a flash card interface.

78. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a wired interface.

79. The playback device of claim 58, wherein the mobile-content server interface is a USB interface.

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80. A playback device comprising:  
 a memory storage unit;  
 an information content source interface;  
 an audio interface  
 a user interface; and  
 a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the user interface, the audio interface and the information content source interface, the processing unit, in response to instructions stored in the memory storage unit, being operative to:

- receive content programming information via the user interface;
- enable the information content source interface in accordance with the content programming information;
- receive information content via the information content source interface;
- provide the information content to the audio output.

81. The playback device of claim 80, wherein prior to providing the information content to the audio output, the processing unit is operative to convert the information content into one or more content segments.

82. The playback device of claim 80, further comprising a mobile-content server interface and wherein the processing unit is further operative to receive at least one advertisement segment via the mobile-content server interface, and wherein the processing unit, in conjunction to providing the information content to the audio output, is further operative to:

- convert the information content into one or more content segments; and
- interleave the advertisement segment with the one or more content segments.

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84. The playback device of claim 82, wherein the mobile-content server interface is an interface to a personal computer.

85. The playback device of claim 82, wherein the mobile-content server interface is an interface to a server device.

86. The playback device of claim 82, wherein the mobile-content server interface and the information content source interface are the same.

87. The playback device of claim 80, wherein the information content source interface is a tunable receiver and the content programming information comprises an information content source identifier and a time-stamp and the processing unit is operative to enable the information content source interface by tuning to a channel associated with the information content source identifier at the time identified by the time-stamp.

88. The playback device of claim 80, wherein the information content source interface is a cellular receiver and the content programming information comprises a telephone number and a time-stamp, and the processing unit is operative to enable the information content source interface by initiating a call to the telephone number at the time identified by the time-stamp.

A playback device comprising:

an information content source interface;

a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the user

in response to instructions received via the user interface,

receive at least one selection menu via the information

receive a content selection via the user interface, the content

provide an indicator of the content selection to the

receive information content via the information content

store the information content into the memory storage unit.

read the information content from the memory storage unit;

provide the information content to the audio interface;

detect a response signal on the response generator interface; and

associate the response signal with the information content currently being provided to the audio interface.

92. The playback device of claim 90, wherein the at least one selection menu is an audio menu and the processing unit provides the at least one selection menu to the audio interface.

93. The playback device of claim 92, wherein the user interface includes a display device, the at least one selection menu is a displayable menu and the processing unit provides the at least one selection menu to the display device.

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94.

A playback device comprising:

a memory storage unit;

an information content source interface;

an audio interface;

a user interface; and

a processing unit coupled to the memory storage unit, the user interface, the audio interface and the information content source interface, the processing unit, in response to instructions stored in the memory storage unit, being operative to:

in response to instructions received via the user interface, enable the information content source interface;

receive at least one selection menu via the information content source interface;

receive a content selection via the user interface, the content selection being associated with at least one item on the at least one selection menu;

provide an indicator of the content selection to the information content source interface;

receive information content via the information content source interface, the information content being associated with the content selection; and

provide the information content to the audio interface.

95. The playback device of claim 94, further comprising a response generator interface and the processing unit is further operative to:

detect a response signal on the response generator interface; and

associate the response signal with the information content currently being provided to the audio interface.

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96. The playback device of claim 95, wherein the processing unit is further operative to provide the response signal to the information content source interface.

97. The playback device of claim 94, wherein the at least one selection menu is an audio menu and the processing unit provides the at least one selection menu to the audio interface.

98. The playback device of claim 94, wherein the user interface includes a display device, the at least one selection menu is a displayable menu and the processing unit provides the at least one selection menu to the display device.

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